



St. John's Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Lenten Midweek Service

April 9, 2025

12:15pm & 7pm Worship



Good morning! Welcome to the Lord's house today—this place that God makes holy by His presence among us. Whether you are a visitor or a long time member, God has good things to give you today, and we invite you to lift up your hearts and give your attention to the Word of God in worship today. Please fill out an attendance card in the pew rack in front of you and place it in the collection plate at the front of each pew section.

“The Spirit Anointed Christ for Mercy”

Opening Hymn

“Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed”

LSB 437

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown,
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide
And shut his glories in
When God, the mighty maker, died
For His own creatures' sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away:
'Tis all that I can do.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, the 40 days of Lent are set aside as a time to take a look at our walk with God. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times, the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, instruction, and humble repentance, born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws life and hope from it. In our service today, we continue to focus on God's mercy in Christ. We take this time to remind ourselves that as Christ has given us mercy, we are to be merciful. Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of

His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lenten season for us, that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

C For He will deliver the poor and needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help.

P Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvelous deeds.

C Praise be to His glorious name forever.

P May the whole earth be filled with His glory.

C Amen.

Confession

P Praise be to Your name, O Jesus, Prophet, Priest, and King of all kings, forever and ever. The marvelous things of Your mercy include Your sinless life, Your death in our place, and Your spectacular resurrection from the dead.

C We cry out to You.

P We, like all people since Adam and Eve, have fallen into sin and stand in need of Your forgiveness.

C We cry out to You.

P O Christ, our King, we confess to You that we have not done the right things You want us to do. We confess that the poor have been forsaken by us and the good things we can and should do for others remain undone.

C We cry out to You.

P Forgive us, Lord.

C For Your sake, O Christ, forgive us.

P Lord, in Your mercy, give us Your peace.

C Amen.

Absolution

P In the name of Jesus and by the power of His cross and His authority, I, as a called and ordained pastor, forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 15:7-11

“If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be. Take care lest there be an unworthy thought in your heart and you say,

‘The seventh year, the year of release is near,’ and your eye look grudgingly on your poor brother, and you give him nothing, and he cry to the LORD against you, and you be guilty of sin. You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, ‘You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.’

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Galatians 2:1-10

Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain. But even Titus, who was with me, was not forced to be circumcised, though he was a Greek. Yet because of false brothers secretly brought in—who slipped in to spy out our freedom that we have in Christ Jesus, so that they might bring us into slavery—to them we did not yield in submission even for a moment, so that the truth of the gospel might be preserved for you. And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)—those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised (for he who worked through Peter for his apostolic ministry to the circumcised worked also through me for mine to the Gentiles), and when James and Cephas and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that was given to me, they gave the right hand of fellowship to Barnabas and me, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised. Only, they asked us to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:16-20

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim

liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn

"Lord of Glory You Have Bought Us"

LSB 851

Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given
Blessings countless as the sand
To the unthankful and the evil
With Your own unsparing hand.

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor You have given
To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to Me."
Can it be, O gracious Master,
That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,

Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.
Text: Public domain

Sermon “The Spirit Anointed Christ to...Preach Good News to the Poor”
Deacon Don Barnard, St. Paul, Sanford

Offering

Prayers

- P Lord, our heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be ministered unto, but to minister: We beseech you to bless all who, following in His steps, give themselves to the service of their fellow men. Endue them with wisdom, patience, and courage to strengthen the weak and raise up those who fall; that, being inspired by thy love, they may worthily minister in your Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy. Make us signs of your kingdom as we seek to give back the mercy that You have bestowed upon us. Make us kind and compassionate for the sake of Him who laid down His life for us, your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ.
- C **In Your mercy hear our prayer.**
- P O God, the King of righteousness, lead us, we pray, in the ways of justice and of peace; that we may live for You, and all may care for each other; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C **In Your mercy hear our prayer.**
- P Eternal Father, who in the sending your Son spoke peace to the world, and in the blood of His Cross opened to all mankind the way to peace with You: turn all men to the cross, that, following His holy example and burning with His zeal of service, they may become one brotherhood in Christ.
- C **In Your mercy hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

- C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as
we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

P The grace of our Lord T Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

LSB 430

My song is love unknown,
My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown
That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I
That for my sake
My Lord should take
Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none
The longed-for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend,
My friend indeed,
Who at my need
His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew His way
And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then “Crucify!”
Is all their breath,
And for His death
They thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
Themselves displease
And 'gainst Him rise.

They rise and needs will have
My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save,
The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He
To suffering goes
That He His foes
From thence might free.

In life no house, no home
My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb
But what a stranger gave.
What may I say?
Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb
Wherein He lay.

Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend,
In whose sweet praise
I all my days
Could gladly spend!

Acknowledgments

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HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Maundy Thursday on April 17; services at 12:15 and 7:00 pm; *only the 7pm service will be live streamed*

Good Friday on April 18; services are at 12:15 and 7:00 pm; *only the 12:15 service will be live streamed.*

(NOTE: church office will be closed on Good Friday)

Children's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19 at 10am

NO 5pm worship service on Saturday, April 19

EASTER SUNDAY SCHEDULE on APRIL 20:

7:00 am Sunrise Service with traditional music

8:00 – 9:00 am Easter breakfast in the lounge

9:00 am Worship Service with blended music*

**only the 9am service will be live streamed on
Easter Sunday*

11:00 am Joyful Praise Worship Service

NO Bible Study or Sunday School